5

10

15

## **CLAIMS**

## What is claimed is:

1. A BIOS debug method to correctly find out the hardware device or cause that results in a test error during the power on self test (POST) period of the BIOS, the method comprising:

the step of inserting an error output command, which inserts an error output command after any hardware device test or initialization step in the sub-routine of the POST program so as to output a particular value to a debug port after the hardware device test or initialization step; and

the step of enabling the error output command, which inserts a condition before the error output command so that the error output command is enabled to output the particular to the debug port when the condition holds.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the validity of the condition is determined by setting a particular variable and detecting the value of the particular variable.
  - 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of setting the particular variable.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the error output command is compiled and added into the POST program only when the condition holds.